though secretb, tor help of the physicians , after that to Dr John Dee at Manchester, who wished him to cra\e the help and assistance ot some godlj preachers, \\ith whom he should join in prajer and fasting ±or the help of his children He procured alao this Hartley to come before him, whom he so snarplj reproved that the children had better rest for some three weeks after But then they began to have their accustomed fits, first John Starkie, Mr Starkie's son, then his daughter, and fi\e other women of his household, three being children of 14, 12 and 10 jeara, and two women of 30 years and more

It was noticed that when this Hartley meant them a mischief he would kiss them if he could, and therewith breathe the Devil into their bodies

Amongst those afflicted was one Margaret Byrom, a kins-woman of Mistress Starkie, who would fall into fits -when this Hartley came to see her Hereupon some preachers, finding Hartley with her, asked him what he did with the maid He said that he came to pray with her € Pray,' quoth one, * why, man, thou canst not pray ' ' Yes, but I can,* quoth he * Say then the Lord's Prayer,* said the preacher, and he began to fumble about it very ill favouredly, but could not for his life say it to the end. They then thought him to be a witch, and caused him to be apprehended and brought before two Justices of the peace, by whom he was further examined and sent to Lancaster gaol

When the assizes came, he was brought up, arraigned and convicted, Mr Starkie having charged him with bewitching his children, which Jie proved sufficiently and made evident to the whole Bench Howbeit for that they could

find no law to
hang him , whereupon Mr Starkie called to mind
the making
of the circle, which being delivered on oath
was received
Nevertheless Hartley stiffly denied it and stood out
against him,
and told him to his face that he should not hang
him (for the
Devil had promised him no halter should hang
him), yet the
juiy cast him and the judge condemned him.
When Hartley
was hanged, the halter brake; whereupon he
penitently con-
fessed that he had deserved that punishment, and
that all which
Mr. Starkie had charged Him with was true.
And so he was
hanged out the second tune